

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
21 May 2004 (21.05.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/041564 A1

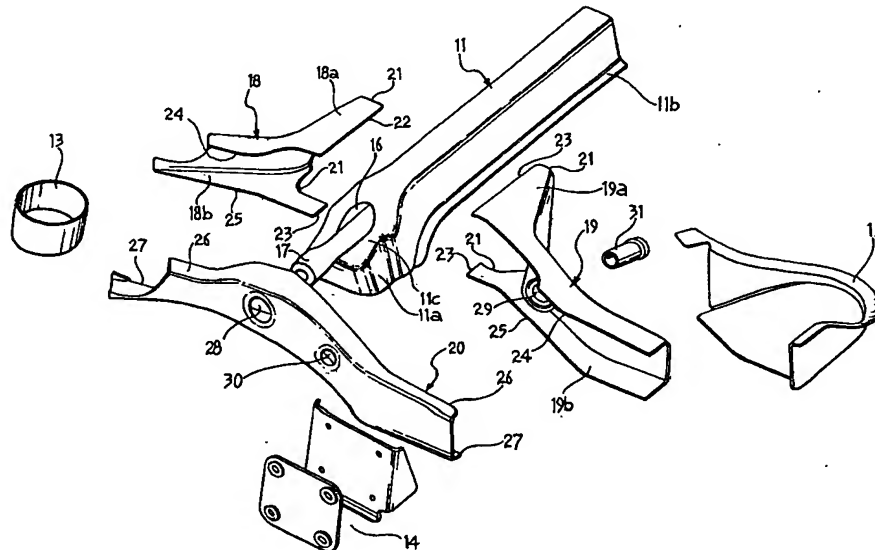
- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **B60G 21/05**, 7/00, B60B 35/02
- (21) International Application Number: **PCT/EP2003/012337**
- (22) International Filing Date:
5 November 2003 (05.11.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
TO2002A000959 7 November 2002 (07.11.2002) IT
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **SISTEMI SOSPENSIONI S.p.A** [IT/IT]; Viale Aldo Borletti 61/63, I-20011 Corbetta (Milano) (IT).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **ALESSO, Guido**, Sebastiano [IT/IT]; Via Gattinara, 22, I-12038 Savigliano (IT). **BUSSOLINO, Daniele** [IT/IT]; Via San Rocco 4, I-10060 (Torino) (IT).
- (74) Agents: **QUINTERNO, Giuseppe et al.**; Jacobacci & Partners S.p.A., Corso Regio Parco, 27, I-10152 Torino (IT).
- (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: TWIST-BEAM AXLE FOR THE REAR SUSPENSION OF A MOTOR VEHICLE AND METHOD FOR ITS PRODUCTION



(57) Abstract: The twist-beam axle (10) comprises a central cross-member (11) compliant to torsion and a pair of trailing arms (12) fixed to side end portions (11a) of the cross-member (11) for articulated connection of the axle to the vehicle body and for support of the rear wheels. Each trailing arm (12) is formed by a pair of first, transversely inner half-shells (18, 19), that is, a front half-shell and a rear half-shell, respectively, securely connected to each other and to the respective end (11a) of the cross-member (11), and by a second transversely outer half-shell (20), securely connected to the pair of first half-shells (18, 19) so as to form therewith a structure having a closed cross-section.



CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT,

LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

— of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.